

St. Peter and Paul's Church, Ballymacward.

(Listen to Mass at 101.4 fm)

PARISH WEBSITE: ballymacwardgurteenparish.com

To contact Fr. Raymond Sweeney Ph: (Landline) 090 9687614. or (M) 086 3868169

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS . ballymacwardparish@eircom.net

- Saturday 13th. **Vigil Mass at 7pm. FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT.**
Denny Morrissey, Garafine (7th. Anniv)
Denis and Annie Morrissey, Garafine (Anniv)
Della Gannon, and the deceased members of the Gannon family.
John Joe, and Lena McGann, Carhoon (10th. & 21st. Anniv)
- Monday 15th. **Mass at 9am. NOVENA TO SAINT JOSEPH.**
The deceased members of the Kenny family Carhoon, and the Kindregan family, Ballinlough.
- Tuesday 16th. **Mass at 9am. NOVENA TO SAINT JOSEPH.**
Michael and Bridget Donelan, and Son Michael, and the deceased members of the Donelan and Broderick Families.
Michael and Margaret McDonagh, and the deceased members of the McDonagh and Kelly Families.
Patrick and Margaret Kelly, and the deceased members of the Family.
- Tuesday 16th. **Vigil Mass at 7pm. FEAST OF SAINT PATRICK.**
Margaret Farquharson, Canada/Annagh (Recently Deceased)
- Wednesday 17th. **Mass at 9am. FEAST OF SAINT PATRICK.**
Special Thanksgiving Intention.
- Thursday 18th. **Mass at 9am. NOVENA TO SAINT JOSEPH.**
Maighread Hogan (Months Mind)
- Friday 19th. **Mass at 9am. NOVENA TO SAINT JOSEPH.**
Special Intention.
- Friday 19th. **Mass at 7pm. Special Intention.**
- Saturday 20th. **Vigil Mass at 7pm. FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT.**
Mary O'Dea, Mounthazel (2nd. Anniv)
Mary, Winifred and Michael Loughnane, Mounthazel
(2nd. 21st. and 44th. Anniv)

CHURCH COLLECTIONS:

THERE WAS NO COUNT DONE THIS WEEK, FIGURES WILL BE PUBLISHED LATER IN THE MONTH.

THE PARISH ACCOUNTS FOR 2020 ARE NOW COMPLETE, ANYONE WHO WISHES TO VIEW SAME PLEASE CONTACT GERRY @ (087) 9322127, TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENT.

Michael Griffin Memorial Church, Gurteen.

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Sunday 14th. Mass at **11am**. **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT.**

Catherine Leonard (Nee Griffin) (1st. Anniv)

Wednesday 17th. Mass at **11am**. **FEAST OF SAINT PATRICK.**

Paddy Burke, Caltragh (51st. Anniv)

Friday 19th. Mass at **8pm**.

Sunday 21st. Mass at **11am**. **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT.**

Mass for the People of the Parish.

R.I.P.: Your prayers are requested for William (Willie/Bob) Hawd, Ballyglunin, father of Angela Finnerty, Clough, and for Jimmy Gilmore, Galway, Cousin of Ollie Ruane, Corskeagh, who died in the past week.

PADRAIG PEARSES GAA CLUB. RESULTS OF THE LOTTO DRAW WHICH TOOK PLACE ON MONDAY 8th. MARCH. WINNING No.'s 8,19,20,24- NO Winner & NO MATCH 3s. NEXT WEEK'S DRAW TAKES PLACE ON MONDAY NIGHT 15th. MARCH FOR A JACKPOT OF €2,200 IN THE CLUBHOUSE. Play the Lotto @bit.ly/30J9HcT

FEBRUARY "250 CLUB DRAW"

€100 SEAN FAHY, €75 MICHELLE BURKE, €50 FRANK MOCKLER.

COMMUNITY ALERT:

A new Community Alert Scheme is now available for the locality, the local co-ordinator is Michael Roche.

The scheme is run by SENDMODE COMMUNITY ALERTS (01) 685 4913, and includes.

GARDA VETTED ALERTS,

GENERAL COMMUNITY ALERTS,

COMMUNITY TEXT ALERTS.

For more information, or to get involved, or to be included, contact MICHAEL his contact details are (087)222 6778 or email roche.farm@yahoo.ie

Important Notice :

An Post – Nursing/Care Homes – Freepost - Recognising the increased restrictions in nursing homes across the country and to bring a little joy, An Post will ensure free delivery of all card and letter mail posted to and from residents of Nursing and Care homes in the State until March 31st 2021. By writing FREEPOST where the stamp would normally be affixed, An Post will carry cards, letters large envelopes and packets weighing up to 2KG without a postage stamp. An Post customers can send these items through the Post Office network and post boxes across Ireland.

Laetare Sunday – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Today we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Lent, which is also called “Laetare Sunday”. Laetare is the Latin for “to Rejoice”. “Laetare Sunday” focuses on the idea that in the midst of our Lenten Pilgrimage there is real joy and hope because Easter is just around the corner. The liturgical colour changes to rose or pink – a mixture between the purple of penance and the joy that awaits us at Easter. This anticipated joy is evident in today’s readings which focus on God’s will that we might be saved from everything that diminishes us and that we might live life as God had intended it to be lived.

St Patrick’s Day 17th March 2021

Today our Lenten Journey finds welcome relief as we celebrate Saint Patrick, apostle to Ireland. Born in 387 AD, tradition holds Patrick to have been from Britain. Taken prisoner at the age of sixteen by a group of Irish raiders, he was held as a farm hand before eventually escaping home. During this harsh period in his life, he turned to his Christian faith for solace. Once home, he began to feel a call to return to Ireland to share with the Irish his faith. This he did with great success. In the Confessions attributed to Patrick, he reflects on his life and his calling: “So I am first of all a simple country person, a refugee, and unlearned. I do not know how to provide for the future. But this I know for certain, that before I was brought low, I was like a stone lying deep in the mud. Then he who is powerful came and in his mercy pulled me out, and lifted me up and placed me on the very top of the wall. That is why I must shout aloud in return to the Lord for such great good deeds of his, here and now and forever, which the human mind cannot measure”. (Confessions, 12) Patrick died sometime around 461 AD.

St Patrick’s Day Emigrant Collection

Thank you for your contributions to this special collection that goes to support the work of Irish Chaplaincies abroad and Pastoral Outreach for Irish Emigrants around the world.

Solemnity of St Joseph, Husband of Mary and Patron of the Universal Church 18th March 2021

On the 8th of December 2020, Pope Francis declared that 2021 would be a special Year of Saint Joseph. Therefore, this year’s celebration of his Feast Day takes on an extra significance. Although descended from the royal house of David, Joseph was an ordinary manual labourer. Scripture tells little of his story except that he was husband of Mary and “Foster-Father of Jesus”. Nonetheless, his modest presence as part of the

Holy Family is constant. Tradition holds that Joseph died sometime before Jesus began his public ministry. In 1870, Pope Pius IX declared him patron and protector of the universal family of the Church. Announcing the Year of Saint Joseph, Pope Francis said: “Each of us can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all”. (Patris Corde)

'Pope Francis' Amoris Laetitia Family Year' 19th March 2021

Today marks the beginning of a special year of reflection on and prayer for family life. More on this will follow during the year.

Covid- 19 Restrictions on Publish Worship – Message from Irish Bishops

“We strongly believe that people’s freedom to worship publicly should be restored as soon as the current Level 5 restrictions begin to be eased. It is particularly painful for Christians to be deprived, for the second year running, of the public expression of our faith during the most sacred time of Holy Week and Easter. This is especially true given that it has been clearly demonstrated that church buildings are among the safest places for people to gather. We also re-emphasise that the ongoing severe restrictions on attendance at Funeral Masses (currently limited to ten) are causing untold grief to many families.” For the full statement:

<https://www.catholicbishops.ie/2021/03/09/bishops-statement-on-the-covid-19-restrictions-in-republic-of-ireland/>

Living with Addiction in the Family: with Mick Devine, March 27th, 10.00-12.30 (via Zoom).

Families that live with addiction experience shame, guilt and anxiety and feel it is 'all my fault.' The pressures of the past year have made this even harder. Recovery is possible This workshop will offer positive tools for managing addiction in the family so that all family members can work towards greater wellbeing. Cost €10 or €20 per family. Register and link: info@galilee.ie All Welcome

Lough Derg

Sunday 21st March RTE Studio Broadcast Mass at 11am will be celebrated by Msgr La Flynn, Prior of Lough Derg along with the Lough Derg Pastoral and Music teams. The Mass will be offered for the Lough Derg pilgrim family near and far. Tune into RTE 1 Television or RTE Radio 1 Extra.